

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the subject application as amended herein is respectfully requested.

The Applicants would like to thank the examiner for the courtesy extended during the interview of May 29, 2007. As explained at the interview, the present invention provides a telephone system with several telephones, and a mediator server that stores several generic messages. The term “generic message” refers to messages that have no direct connection or content related to an specific telephone. The user of each of the telephones can decide a priori by what events or actions can cause one of the messages to be inserted into the voice channels. Then, during the use of the telephones when one of these events take place, the mediator server receives an appropriate command, selects the message associated with that command and inserts the message into a respective voice channel. It must be emphasized again that in this system the messages are accessible to any of the phones associated with the mediator server.

The claims stand rejected as being anticipated by, or obvious in view of Paris and other references. The Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections. Paris pertains to a system in which business data from a telephone is sent on request to another location over the telephone line. The data is specific to the telephone involved in the telephone conversation. On the other hand in the present application, several different messages are stored in the system and one of the message is then sent as part of a conversation between two

telephones. Importantly, as discussed above and as recited in the amended claims, these messages are generic and are not related to the telephones or their users. Instead, the messages are generic and a message is selected a priori by a user, or selected during the conversation by generating a command. In one implementation, the message has a blank period which is then filled in by the mediator server in response to a command.

Paris does not have such a mediator server with different generic messages, and neither do any of the other remaining references. The Examiner took the position during the interview that Paris anticipates at least some of the claims in that it discloses a system with a mediator. The undersigned has reviewed the reference carefully and it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's position is erroneous. First of all, as clearly recited in the claims, the messages stored by the mediator are generic messages, messages that are not related to any of the telephones. On the other hand, a fair reading of Paris indicates clearly that its messages are specific to a particular phone. The Applicants admit that in one embodiment, Paris uses a central "telephone company exchange." (col. 6, line 67). This exchange indexes the user's telephone number and when a user activates a certain key or sequence of keys a preselected information is sent on an open channel. However this information is specific to, and not generic to all the telephones. Therefore the exchange stores messages specific to each of the telephones, and no message is selectable by two different telephones. (see top of col.7).

Some claims stand rejected as being obvious in view of Paris combined with other references. The Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections because the secondary references also fail to disclose a system with a system having a mediator that stores generic messages.

More specifically, Pinter pertains to a system for exchanging e-mails and, contrary to the statement by the examiner, has nothing to do with telephones at all. Higuchi and Jones are relied on as teaching cellular telephones or VOIP systems.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required in connection with the addition of the new claims to the Firm's Deposit Account No. 07-1730.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject application is now in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted

GOTTLIEB, RACKMAN & REISMAN, P.C.

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